April 2, 2008

umlshuttle

A Publication of the University of Massachusetts Lowell

Hundreds Gather for Pomp and Circumstance

Inauguration Ceremony Follows Well-Known Academic Traditions

Political and academic leaders, delegates of universities from all over the country, Secret Service agents and other entourage members, alumni, faculty, students and staff—all will gather at 10 a.m. on Friday, April 4, in the Recreation Center to witness an historic moment for the University: the inauguration of Chancellor Martin T. Meehan.

The ceremony may be new to the UMass Lowell campus—given that the last change in leadership was more than 25 years ago—but the pomp and circumstance of an inauguration is well known in academic culture. The traditions surrounding the smallest details, such as what participants wear and what the marshal carries, date back as far as medieval times.

The academic procession is one of the more distinctive parts of the ceremony, with the colorful regalia of the platform party, special guests, delegates and honorees lending a festive yet dignified air to the celebration. Robe and hood—both color and style—are dictated by the wearer's alma mater and highest degree achieved.

The academic procession will be led by 30 students representing the University's colleges. Delegates follow in two columns, lined up in order of the founding year of the institution they are representing, with the oldest first. Faculty follow, then deans and the Cabinet, trustees and other members of the platform party, including speakers, members of Congress and special guests.

The head marshal comes next, holding a mace, which symbolizes the authority vested in the chancellor by the University's Board of Trustees. In medieval Europe, the mace carrier protected the leader of a kingdom,

▲ Chancellor Marty Meehan

cathedral or university. The tradition of carrying a mace during academic public ceremonies began in the 16th century. The marshal walks in front of Chancellor Meehan, who will walk alone—in a place of honor—to end the procession.

The installation ceremony itself is also steeped in academic tradition. Various special guests will offer greetings from the city, the university, the state, the students and the faculty. Visiting delegates will be welcomed

Continued on Page 7

Northeastern University Provost Named to Post at UMass Lowell

Ahmed Abdelal, who has served as Northeastern University's provost since 2002, has been named the new provost of UMass Lowell. He brings to the post a track record of success in higher education management as well as expertise in science and research.

Prior to joining Northeastern, Abdelal was dean of arts and sciences at Georgia State University from 1992 to 2002 and, before that, chair of Biology at Georgia State for more than a decade. He holds a bachelor's degree in food science from Cairo University, a doctorate in microbiology from the University of California, Davis and has completed post-doctoral work at UC Davis and at the Institute for Microbiology at the University of Gottingen, Germany.

"It is an exciting opportunity to work with the UMass Lowell community under the visionary leadership of Chancellor Marty Meehan to further this urban-oriented university as a vibrant center for arts and culture that prepares graduates and the workforce for the global marketplace and serves as an engine for economic development in partnership with industry and business," said Abdelal, who is expected to start in early June.

Continued on Page 5

▲ Dr. Ahmed Abdelal

Inauguration Fundraising Total Passes Half Million

Contributions Come from Alums, and Both New and Old Supporters

Sponsors and contributors to the inauguration of Chancellor Marty Meehan have committed more than $600,000 for scholarships, most supporting the Chancellor Martin T. Meehan Educational Excellence Endowment Fund. The final total will be announced during inauguration activities.

Some of the biggest contributions have come from familiar UMass Lowell supporters, such as alumni Charlie Hoff '66, who as the inauguration's overall sponsor committed $50,000, and John F. Kennedy '77 and L. Donald LaTorre '59, who each committed $25,000. LaTorre sponsored the signature event "Innovation for the Next Generation" on April 2.

Of note are other donors who have had little or no interaction with UMass Lowell in the past but have joined in supporting the inauguration because of their connection with Chancellor Meehan. For instance, Chancellor Meehan's long-term association with the New England Patriots prompted its Foundation to contribute $25,000.

Other sponsors at the $25,000 level are Aramark Corp., a sponsor of the Inaugural Gala on Thursday night, April 3 at the Allen House; Honorary Inaugural Committee Co-Chair George Behrakis; Demoulas Foundation; The Lowell Sun; Raytheon Corp.; and the Tayebati Family Foundation.

Continued on Page 7

Chancellor Tells Campus, 'I Want Us to Be Great'

Chancellor Marty Meehan, addressing a large gathering of faculty and staff at the end of March, described a series of accomplishments that the University has achieved in recent months and outlined some of his visions for the future.

He made clear at the outset that he wants UMass Lowell to be a school of choice for college-bound students.

"We are not just comparing ourselves to other state schools," he said. "I want the students who come here (and I was one of them) to have the same opportunities for success as if they had attended BC or BU or anyplace else."

Continued on Page 4

WUML 91.5 FM Sunrise

Mon.- Fri. 7 to 9 a.m.

Bright Radio to Start Your Day

In Allen House, a Richness of Art and Photos Going Back a Century

Allen House, the grand old, Italianate-style building on UML South, now in its new role as the Chancellor's office and meeting rooms, is debuting this week as the seat of an extraordinary collection—probably never before equaled on campus—of photography and art.

For longer than a month now, a team of artists, archivists and curators from across all disciplines and campus departments have been pooling their talents to bring together this remarkable compilation of work—going back more than a century, more than 40 pieces in all.

The official unveiling took place on Tuesday, March 31, when 10 paintings, six long-archived Allen family photos, 18 photographic images from the Chancellor's public life, and seven before-and-after photo-collages depicting campus life were showcased throughout the Allen House interior, timed to coincide with the outset of the University's Inaugural Week.

Perhaps the rarest and most striking of the works are the 10 paintings, culled from a group of 27 long archived in Lowell's Whistler House Museum of Art. The paintings, all works by Allen patriarch Charles Herbert Allen (1848-1934), include several 19th-20th century New England seascapes and landscapes. The paintings, displayed in the building's Spinola Art Gallery, were selected, collected and hung through the combined efforts of Michael H. Lally and James Dyment, executive director and gallery exhibits manager of the Whistler House; Louis Karabatsos of the Lowell Art Association; graphic designer Victoria Dalis of the UMass Lowell Public Affairs Office and Lois Nangle of University Advancement.

The six archived, black-and-white Allen family photos, contributed from the album of former family caretaker Walter Hayes by his son Robert, include images of family members, as well as of the Allen House gardens, and of the house itself, taken during the period (1890-1934) of Charles Allen's ownership. They hang on the walls of the house's sun porch, and were collected under the guidance of Martha Mayo of the Center for Lowell History.

The 18 photographic images of Marty Meehan's public life—photos of several U.S. presidents, congressmen and world leaders, including Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush, Tip O'Neill and Tony Blair—are displayed prominently in the downstairs parlor and corridor. They were gathered and culled with the assistance of Elaine Dalton of the University Advancement Office; Victoria Dalis; Tony Sampas, Fifth District Congressional archivist; and Emily Byrne, director of the Advancement Office's Lowell fund.

And finally, the seven before-and-after images of University Life-showing contrasts between photos of students in the early 20th century with those of today, attending classes, recording music and playing basketball-hang in the Allen House conference room, and were prepared with the aid of Martha Mayo and Victoria Dalis.

▲ **Some of those who helped gather art for the Allen House's Inaugural collection: from left, James Dyment and Michael Lally of the Whistler House Museum of Art; Prof. Emerita Mary Blewett; Lewis Karabatsos of the Lowell Art Association; Lois Nangle of University Advancement; and Public Affairs designer Victoria Dalis.**

EOO Director Featured in New Magazine for Diverse Job-Seekers

Oneida Blagg, UMass Lowell's director of Equal Opportunity and Outreach, is featured in the first-ever edition of the publication Inclusion: Perspectives on Career Advancement, which recently hit newsstands.

Inclusion is produced by the Bay State Banner—the Boston-based weekly newspaper that serves the African-American community—as its first publication geared toward adults of diverse backgrounds.

"(Inclusion) is a resource for college graduates and young adults who are seeking to advance their professional development in organizations that are committed to inclusion," the Banner states. Its mission is "to empower young professionals with the information and tools they need to advance their careers within Massachusetts."

Blagg, who leads UMass Lowell's efforts to recruit diverse job-seekers, was interviewed by Inclusion on a number of topics from her upbringing in Tacoma, Wash., to her years serving in the National Guard and how that led her to the University.

Blagg—who is one of six children in a military family—spent part of her childhood in Hawaii before the family moved to Tacoma. As a family with a tri-racial background, Blagg says, her parents encouraged her and her siblings to read about diversity and form opinions. "We had to discuss it at our home," she says.

Being able to speak comfortably about the issues surrounding diversity is one of the skills Blagg says is important in her job today.

But that isn't all that's needed, she says. "I think what a lot of people don't realize is the career field doesn't just require an opinionated person, it requires training and understanding of laws and how to interpret them."

Blagg, who holds degrees in political science and counseling, got her start in the equal opportunity and outreach field at her alma mater, Pacific Lutheran University. From there, she took a full-time position with the National Guard, in which she had previously served part-time.

▲ **Oneida Blagg, director of Equal Opportunity and Outreach**

She says her degree in counseling helps her in her job today through her ability to communicate with people about their concerns and to seek out underlying issues that result from conflict.

"You deal with a lot of emotional content," says Blagg, who has participated in about 600 hours of training related to her field.

Being featured in the first issue of Inclusion, she says, is a "very nice honor. I also think it will help draw focus to what we're doing here at the University."

She was asked by Inclusion about the things that are the most helpful in her job. Her answer: "Humility and grace."

It doesn't matter, Blagg says, if someone feels discriminated against or is accused of discrimination. "You can't automatically take sides. That takes humility." Grace comes into play, she says, in "being able to stand back and determine what happened."

The launch of Inclusion was held at the Recruit & Retain: Diversity Career Expo in Boston in early April. The event was presented by the Bay State Banner and the National Black MBA Association and sponsored by the National Association of Asian American Professionals-Boston and Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting.

The Shuttle is published by the Office of Public Affairs, UMass Lowell,
One University Ave.,
Lowell, MA 01854
Tel.978-934-3223

Go to www.uml.edu/enews for a more complete overview of all news relating to UMass Lowell and it's programs, faculty, students and staff.

Chief Public Affairs Officer:
Patricia McCafferty

Publisher:
Mary Lou Hubbell

Editor:
Jack McDonough

Staff Writers:
Edwin Aguirre
Renae Lias Claffey
Geoffrey Douglas
Sheila Eppolito
Christine Gillette
Jennifer Hanson
Morgan Hough
Elizabeth James
Kristen O'Reilly
Sandra Seitz

Interns:
Devonne Sutton

The University of Massachusetts Lowell is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action, Title IX, H/V, ADA 1990 Employer.

To submit information for possible inclusion in UMass Lowell enews or *The Shuttle* email us at: enews@uml.edu

UML's DesignLab Gets Financial Boost

Funding Commitments Total $925,000

DesignLab, UMass Lowell's innovative after-school science and engineering workshop, recently received a much-needed shot in the arm when the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education awarded it a three-year, $250,000 grant from the state's STEM Pipeline Fund. Sen. Steven Panagiotakos, chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and a longtime supporter of DesignLab, has been one of the leaders in making sure that STEM Pipeline funding for such projects are available statewide.

DesignLab is one of five student-education and teacher-training programs being offered by the University's Future Engineers Center, which is quickly becoming one of the Commonwealth's leading providers of informal K-12 education in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields. Each year, the Center also conducts DesignCamp, an on-campus summer program that's now being replicated at universities in Boston, in Bremen, Germany, and in London; TechCreation, a web-based after-school enrichment program for middle schools that is a collaborative venture with Asst. Prof. Fred Martin of the Computer Science Department; the Assistive Technology Design Fair, which showcases devices designed and built by high-school students to help people with disabilities or special needs; and DC High-Tech, a series of advanced, pre-engineering summer workshops for selected sophomores and juniors.

"Our mission is to engage students and teachers in challenging, hands-on, design-based science and technology activities in order to interest more students in, and better prepare for, careers in science and engineering," says Center co-founder and executive director Doug Prime. "Since the inception of DesignCamp in 2000, we've developed STEM programs that have engaged more than 3,000 students and 150 teachers."

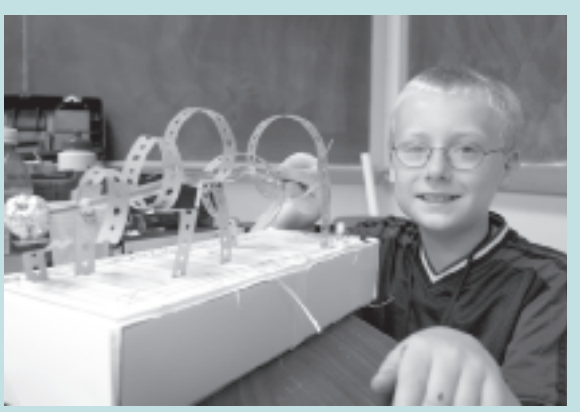
▲ **UML Future Engineers Center's team includes, from left, program developer Marcus Soule, executive director Doug Prime, assistant director Deborah Finch and program developer Michael Penta.**

In addition to the STEM Pipeline grant, DesignLab has received $130,000 from the Noyce Foundation, $100,000 from the American Honda Foundation, $35,000 from the Motorola Innovation Generation Grant and $22,000 from Boston Scientific. These funds go a long way in helping realize DesignLab's five-year, $1.4-million expansion plan to formally develop, pilot-test and publish eight after-school engineering workshops for middle schools.

"Our plan involves training 125 teachers from more than 50 middle schools who will teach hands-on engineering programs to more than 7,500 students in Massachusetts by 2011," says Center assistant director Deborah Finch. "To date, we've raised $925,000 in funding commitments, which is approximately two-thirds of the funding needed to achieve these ambitious goals. Our other major partners include Mark Gelfand and Raytheon. We're still looking for a few additional major sponsors to join our consortium of 'founding partners' to help support this significant initiative."

Under the plan, DesignLab will provide schools with "invention kits" and project guides to do fun and challenging design projects as well as classroom toolkits for all the workshops. "Developing highly engaging, design-based project kits, along with instruction videos and a comprehensive website to support teachers, is the most feasible and economical way to significantly increase the number of middle school students engaged in STEM programs," says Prime. "We've already received inquiries from more than two dozen schools in Massachusetts and other states that are interested in offering our workshops."

For more information about DesignLab and the Future Engineers Center, contact Prime at Douglas_Prime@uml.edu; 978-934-3481, or visit http://umlfutureengineers.org.



▲ **DesignLab offers innovative K-12 programs in science and engineering.**

Prof. Paula Rayman Travels to Israel to Study Co-Existence

Prof. Paula Rayman of the Regional Economic and Social Development Department recently left on a two-month sabbatical to the University of Haifa, Israel, where she is joining a project examining Israeli Arab and Jewish relations.

"I am very interested in relationships between economic and social development," explains Rayman. "In this age of globalization, it is very important to find ways to create economic growth and social development for individuals and communities."

Rayman recently received the J. William Fulbright Senior Specialist Award, administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars and the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. After receiving the award, Rayman was asked by the University of Haifa to join their project, "Beyond Co-Existence: Israeli Arab and Jewish Relations."

"Beyond Co-Existence," launched in 2007, studies co-existence projects in the region, evaluating them and determining their effectiveness. Rayman's work focuses on three areas: microenterprising and women's empowerment, which creates small businesses for Israeli and Jewish women; a low income neighborhood project examining the success of community service projects of Israeli Arab and Jewish students; and working with high school teachers and parents to develop a curriculum promoting shared citizenship between students.

"I am working in one of the most conflicted parts of the world," says Rayman. "A lot of the issues and projects are very similar to ones at UML and in the local community, only in Israel the conflict is accentuated.

"There has never been a more important time in human history where there are opportunities to make a difference," she explains. "If not, we will be living in a world of incredible conflicts."

▲ **Paula Rayman**

Honors House at Eames Hall Ready for Fall '08

UML's Residence Becomes Only One Among State's Public Campuses

UMass Lowell has announced the Honors House at Eames Hall, the only residence hall devoted entirely to Honors Students among Massachusetts public college and university campuses.

"This is a very exciting step for us," says Prof. Doreen Arcus, director of the Honors Program. "The Honors House will deepen and enrich the academic experience way beyond the classroom.

"The fact that UMass Lowell is the only public campus in the Commonwealth to have a residence dedicated to honors students and one of only a handful nationwide to engage in faculty-in-residence education, sends an important message to our students about their own potential and our commitment to nurturing it."

The Honors House will introduce Faculty in Residence Education (FIRE) to the campus. A faculty member will reside in Eames Hall to mentor students, host gatherings and foster strong connections between students and faculty. Modeled on the Harvard University House system, the Honors House is designed to integrate academic and enrichment activities seamlessly into residential life.

Eames Hall will have a complete facelift before move-in day in September. The hall, which will house both male and female students, will include amenities such as a library with fireplace, delivery of daily newspapers, a media area for lounging and film series, small group meeting spaces and recreational areas.

Scheduled activities will include Twisted Tuesday, in which faculty members will offer informal presentations of a skill or interest outside their professional area. These presentations are intended to foster student-faculty connections. The resident faculty member will host occasional teas for students and faculty and there will be field trips to plays, tours, concerts and points of interest.

First priority in room assignment in the Honors House at Eames will go to returning honors students. New students must be accepted into the UML Honors program with academic agreements completed prior to assignment to Eames. Students whose housing deposits are received after all rooms have been assigned will be wait-listed.

For additional information, contact Elizabeth Donaghey, Honors Program coordinator, at ext. 2921, or the Residence Life Housing Office at ext. 5160.

▲ UMass Lowell's new Honors House will be located in Eames Hall on UML North.

Continued from Page 1

Chancellor Tells Campus, 'I Want Us to Be Great'

A key player in achieving excellence will be the new provost, Dr. Ahmed Abdelal. A microbiologist with leadership experience in public and private universities, Abdelal will focus on improving student retention, long-term planning and the strengthening of curriculum and research. Interim Provost Donald Pierson will continue through commencement for a smooth transition.

In other leadership areas, Meehan reported that a search for a new executive director of facilities will begin soon; that person will implement the recommendations of the Facilities Review Committee. A Green Team will be formed to take on recycling initiatives and the chancellor has commissioned DCAM, the Division of Capital Asset Management for the state, to develop a campus master plan to look ahead five, 10, 20 years.

The deficit has been both a challenge and a drag on growth. Cost controls for FY08 have reduced the figure by half, to $1.5 million, and the campus is on track to eliminating the deficit by FY10 through a combination of controlling expenditures and increasing revenue.

The Board of Trustees took one step by increasing tuition and fees this year. Meehan said, "This is a hardship on our students, but our own student trustee voted in favor of the increase in order to improve our campus."

Meehan also called for an increase in enrollment by 2.5 percent annually and urged everyone to help meet that goal through the quality of their work and their interactions with students. New residence halls will help; transfer numbers and freshman applications are up; and new recruiting programs have been introduced. The chancellor said the governor has been very supportive, as has the legislative delegation, in commitments to the funding of key projects, but fundraising from other sources will continue to gain in importance.

Strong programs in online and blended learning are serving the region with academic offerings and workforce skill development. Continuing Studies volume is likely to reach $18 million this year—returning approximately $8 million in net revenue to the campus.

▲ Chancellor Marty Meehan

Research grants increase revenue, contribute to the common good and enhance the academic experience. The chancellor pointed to recent highlights, including a $27 million appropriation in the Department of Defense budget for the Submillimeter-Wave Technology Laboratory, directed by Prof. Robert Giles. Lowell is partnered with six other institutions on an exciting limb regeneration research project funded by DARPA. Prof. Susan Braunhut is UML's lead on that project, as well as on breast cancer research conducted with Triton Biosystems—work that receives more than $200,000 per year of federal funding for research that leads to commercialization.

Meehan concluded his presentation with an emphasis on raising the University's prestige, building relationships and increasing endowments.

"Since becoming chancellor, I have worked tenaciously to raise the profile of this University," he said. The hockey program has been a huge success—with increases in attendance, season ticket holders and revenues. Relationships with colleagues in the University system, with external constituents and with the business community are growing stronger. And fundraising is well ahead of the targets for the year. Two new endowed professorships have been established for the Plastics Engineering Department, each funded by $1 million, and two more are in process.

—SS

Prof. Chen Testifies Before U.S. House Subcommittee

Hearing Held on National Nanotechnology Initiative

Prof. Julie Chen of the Department of Mechanical Engineering was one of five expert panelists at a recent U.S. House hearing calling for continued federal support for university-industry partnerships in nanomanufacturing. Chen, who is co-director (with Profs. Carol Barry and Joey Mead) of UML's Nanomanufacturing Centers, appeared before the Committee on Science and Technology's Research and Science Education Subcommittee to testify on the "Transfer of National Nanotechnology Initiative Research Outcomes for Commercial and Public Benefit."

"I think my testimony went well," says Chen. "The members of the subcommittee were very receptive to the points made by the entire panel. They were basically looking for input and suggestions for what they could do to help the U.S. bolster its global leadership and competitiveness in this area."

The House subcommittee, which is in the process of reauthorizing the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI), wanted to examine how effectively NNI-supported research is being translated into commercial products and processes for the public good. Its members questioned Chen and the other panelists—two CEOs and two research institute directors—on the current barriers that exist to the commercialization of nanotechnology and asked for their ideas on ways in which the NNI can enhance technology transfer and commercialization. The NNI, which was enacted in 2003, coordinates the nanotechnology R&D activities of 26 federal agencies. Its total estimated budget for FY2008 is $1.49 billion.

"While the bulk of the federal funding for R&D must remain at the basic research level to ensure future discoveries and emerging technologies," Chen told the subcommittee,

▲ **Prof. Julie Chen at the March 11 U. S. House Subcommittee hearing in Washington, D.C.**

"some federal funding is needed to provide incentives for the partnerships that are needed—university-industry partnerships to accelerate technology demonstration efforts, to develop and expand the accessibility of new tools and processing equipment, and to address concomitant issues such as environmental, health, safety, and intellectual property." The full text of her testimony can be found at http://science.house.gov/publications/hearings_markups_details.aspx?NewsID=2115.

This was Chen's first time testifying before a Congressional body. "I had gone to a hearing once before, when I was in D.C. at the National Science Foundation," she recalls, "but it's definitely different being on the panel rather than just being a spectator. It was a great experience."

Chen says the Q&A period after each of the panelists had made their statements was also interesting. "It was not the type of testimony you tend to see on TV, with Congressional reps grilling Condoleezza Rice or Roger Clemens; it was more of an open discussion," she says. "The subcommittee Chair recommended that we send ideas and suggestions about the issue to them if we come up with more thoughts after the discussion."

A resident of Wilmington, Chen recently was named one of Greater Lowell's most fascinating people of 2007.

▲ **Julie Chen, second from left, testifies before U.S. House hearing.**

Continued from Page 1

Northeastern University Provost Named to Post at UMass Lowell

In his leadership roles at Northeastern and Georgia State, Abdelal improved student retention rates and strengthened graduate and research programs. He shaped strategies for investments in research, expanding faculty and upgrading facilities in key areas such as nanomanufacturing and engineering. At Northeastern, his work with the senior leadership team culminated with advancing the school's U.S. News and World Report ranking from 150 in 2001 to 98 in 2006.

"Dr. Abdelal will bring a proven track record of enabling students, faculty and administrators to pursue excellence in education to UMass Lowell, as evidenced by his many accomplishments at Northeastern University and Georgia State University."

Marty Meehan

"Dr. Abdelal will bring a proven track record of enabling students, faculty and administrators to pursue excellence in education to UMass Lowell, as evidenced by his many accomplishments at Northeastern University and Georgia State University," said Meehan. "He has been steadfast in his commitment to building quality academic programs that meet the needs of students and employers. His commitment to truly interdisciplinary programs will enable him to build upon the work pioneered by many of the UMass Lowell faculty in this important area."

Following a national search for candidates, Abdelal was selected by a committee of community leaders and faculty members from across disciplines at UMass Lowell. The process included interviews with the committee, as well as open forums with participation from any interested members of the University community.

"As Northeastern's provost, Dr. Abdelal has led that institution through a period of major growth, achieving excellence in engineering and science research, including nanomanufacturing, strong university-industry and international partnerships, interdisciplinary social sciences research, and P-16 education," said Prof. Julie Chen, co-chair of the Nanomanufacturing Center of Excellence and co-chair of the provost search committee. "In addition, he has successfully championed efforts to increase student retention and graduation rates. We look forward to the energy and experience he will bring to our campus."

Abdelal is a member of the American Academy for Microbiology, the American Society for Biological Chemists and the American Society for Industrial Microbiology, and has published 62 scientific papers and made presentations at national meetings on science and higher education. His research was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy and the Georgia Research Alliance.

Northeastern University President Emeritus Richard Freeland says Abdelal's commitment to research and science does not come at the expense of humanities or other programs.

"He has a balanced view where arts and sciences are involved," says Freeland. "Most disciplines at Northeastern will tell you he is a balanced provost on the different aspects of the curriculum."

Abdelal led both Northeastern and Georgia State in building partnerships across academic disciplines around the world to help prepare students to enter the global workforce and support the interests of faculty and the community. His collaborative approach to leadership has been featured in a case study by the Harvard Institutes of Higher Education.

"Dr. Abdelal is strongly committed to a collaborative leadership style that is critical to my vision of how we will all work together as a community to build the University into a nationally renowned institution," said Meehan.

—*CG*

Strong Season for Hockey Team

The River Hawks Hockey team took nationally ranked Boston University to the tie-breaking third game in the quarterfinals on Sunday, March 16, before losing 4-1. Despite the loss, the season is widely regarded as a success as the team doubled its win total from last year, finishing 16-17-4. Fans also enjoyed an invigorated game-day atmosphere at the Tsongas Arena thanks to the See You at the Tsongas marketing campaign.

The River Hawks were nationally ranked for 11 weeks in the USCHO.com/CSTV Division I poll, reaching as high as No. 13 on Jan. 7.

Several players enjoyed breakout seasons. Kory Falite led the league with 15 goals in 27 games and was named a Hockey East Second Team All Star. He finished with a team-leading 18 goals overall and 32 points. Maury Edwards led UML rookies with 19 points on eight goals and 11 assists and was named to the league's All-Rookie team. The freshman tied for the team lead with 14 power play points and led the squad with seven power-play goals. Barry Goers (4 goals, 20 assists), Mark Roebothan (14 goals, 9 assists), Mike Potacco (10 goals, 12 assists) and Ben Holmstrom (7 goals, 20 assists) also enjoyed career seasons.

Jeremy Dehner, perhaps the best defenseman in Hockey East, had a solid season as a sophomore despite missing six games with an injury. Dehner chipped in with 16 points on one goal and 15 assists. Freshman center Scott Campbell finished second on the squad with 18 points on seven goals and 11 assists.

As a team, the River Hawks received the Charlie Holt Sportsmanship Award as Hockey East's least-penalized team. UML averaged just 10.1 penalty minutes per game in league games and just 10.8 minutes in penalties in all games.

The renewed energy and enthusiasm for the program in the community and on campus was on display each night the River Hawks took the ice at the Tsongas Arena. UML drew 64,517 fans in 19 home games for an average of 3,396 per game (up from 2,984 last season).

Chancellor Offers Vision for Capital Projects

▲ Administration and Finance Undersecretary Jay Gonzalez, front, and Director of Capital Finance Karol Ostberg, second from left, recently heard Chancellor Marty Meehan's vision for building out the campus. They were joined by Sen. Steven C. Panagiotakos, right, and Rep. Thomas Golden (not pictured), as well as faculty whose research is likely to be housed in the Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center and the proposed new Innovation Center for Life Sciences, including Prof. Julie Chen, left, and Prof. Carol Barry, center.

Nanomanufacturing: The Next Revolution

Summit Showcases Faculty Research in Nanomanufacturing

UMass Lowell is inviting alumni, business and industry partners and other members of the community to discover how the University is leading the next industrial revolution, one based on expanding knowledge of the nanoscale. More than 30 faculty members, many of whom have already made impressive scientific breakthroughs, will participate in this Nanomanufacturing Summit, a multimedia informational event aimed at explaining to visitors how federal, state and University funds are combining to advance research in this critical area.

The summit will take place on Thursday, April 17, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Suffolk Conference Center at Wannalancit Mills, 650 Suffolk St.

The directors of the Nanomanufacturing Centers at UMass Lowell—Profs. Joey Mead, Julie Chen and Carol Barry—will host the event, which is free and open to the public. Afternoon activities will include poster and video presentations, group discussions and one-on-one interactions. Topics to be covered include nano sensors; life science; environmental, health and safety of nanomaterials; and nanomanufacturing processes.

A new feature at this year's summit will be tutorials on technology innovation and commercialization (conducted by Asst. Prof. Steven Tello of the Management Department) and on materials characterization (by Dr. Jun Lee of the Nanomanufacturing Center). The tutorials will be held from 1 to 2 p.m.

Please RSVP by April 10. For more information, contact Lois Heath at 978-934-3188; nano@uml.edu, or visit www.uml.edu/nano.

Prof. Michael Jones Creates Oil Painting for 2008 Olympics

Legal Studies Prof. Michael E. Jones has created a painting to represent the U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team in the 2008 events in Beijing, China.

The original 40-by-30 inch oil-on-canvas has been reproduced on 150 limited-edition posters. The poster, Jones says, "seeks to blend traditional Chinese painting principles with modern art."

In this work, he explains, "There are two basic modes of expression: words and images. Chinese painters from the past frequently felt compelled to inscribe poetry on their paintings. I elected to follow this approach by working an inspirational poem into this poster. The poem also serves as an important source for the symbolic lines, shapes, colors and calligraphy depicting the three sports of a triathlon.

"The essential feeling and meaning of 'being' a triathlete is hopefully captured by the poster's poetry and visual imagery. The color red is meant to excite. The color black is meant to calm. A triathlete competes in harmony with nature. The birds in flight signify good fortune for all the competitors in Beijing."

This is not the first time that Jones, himself a triathlete with international credentials, has created an Olympic triathlon painting. He completed the first in 2001. The idea of creating it came to him when, while serving as chief judge of triathlon trials in Dallas, he noticed that there were no posters for the sport in evidence.

That work, done in an impressionistic style, also was reproduced in poster form.

▲ Prof. Michael E. Jones signs one of the 150 posters reproduced from his Olympic triathlon oil painting.

Continued from Page 1

Hundreds Gather for Pomp and Circumstance

by Suffolk University President Dave Sargent. U.S. Rep. John Kerry, U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas, Gov. Deval Patrick, and State Sen. Steven Panagiotakos will offer remarks about the chancellor before Speaker of the U.S. House Nancy Pelosi takes the stage for the highly anticipated keynote address.

Following the keynote, UMass Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Manning '84 will read the charge of office and present Chancellor Meehan with the symbols of the office. UMass President Jack M. Wilson will place the chancellor's medallion around the chancellor's shoulders.

Chancellor Meehan will then present his vision for the University in his inaugural address. The newly installed chancellor will lead the recession with his macebearer for symbolic protection.

All participants and guests of the inauguration are invited to LaLacheur Field following the ceremony for a reception.

—KO'R

Building a New Vision Together

Excellence Through Innovation

Continued from Page 1

Inauguration Fundraising Total Passes Half Million

Behrakis said he was happy to be a major sponsor because he believes in Chancellor Meehan's vision.

"I've got full confidence in his ability to really get this school into the top tier," he said.

For a complete list of top donors, visit http://www.uml.edu/chancellor/inauguration/Sponsors.html.

Online Photo Gallery Features Pictures from Campus Events

The Public Affairs Office has implemented online photo gallery software to display images from campus events. Pictures from press conferences, alumni functions, campus-wide and individual department events will be featured.

Events currently viewable online include the Honors Fellows Fundraiser, the Women's Work Craft Fair and the Challenge Cup. Photos can be viewed individually or as a slideshow. Most images are available in multiple resolutions and can be downloaded or printed. Some are copyrighted by professional photographers.

Departments may also have galleries of events linked from their websites. Army ROTC has pictures from its football game versus the Air Force. Contact your Public Affairs beat person or Elaine Keough at elaine_keough@uml.edu or ext. 3325 for more information.

The photos can be viewed at http://www.uml.edu/gallery/main.php.

UML Researcher Harnesses the Power of Light

New Technology Promises Many Applications

Physics Asst. Prof. Daniel Wasserman loves photons—those quanta (units) of visible light or other forms of electromagnetic radiation that possess both particle and wave characteristics. As assistant director of UMass Lowell's Photonics Center, his research deals mainly with the properties and applications of light and other forms of radiant energy, including ways to generate and control them.

"I'm interested in anything that emits, detects and interacts with light," he says, "specifically, mid-infrared light." This light, which is invisible to the human eye, has a wavelength of 2 to 30 microns (millionths of a meter). Wasserman and his graduate students, Troy Ribaudo, Rajesh Lakkimsetti and Karen Freitas, are currently working on a new approach to the study of "active surface plasmons."

According to Wasserman, their research, which has been funded as a collaboration with Sandia National Laboratories, is significant because they are taking a completely novel approach to the field. "We're thinking about devices based on surface plasmons as not simply passive optical elements but as optoelectronic devices, which greatly enhances the number of applications for them and their overall utility," he says.

His team's findings were recently featured in the journal Laser Focus World. "Being able to actively control surface plasmons has many potential commercial, biomedical and military applications," says Wasserman. "For instance, people have talked about using surface-plasmon-based gratings as filters that allow a certain range of wavelengths to pass through and exclude others. If you're able to electronically tune these filters, their utility increases dramatically and they could be applied to numerous technologies, such as flat-panel displays."

▲ **Daniel Wasserman**

"We're thinking about devices based on surface plasmons as not simply passive optical elements but as optoelectronic devices, which greatly enhances the number of applications for them and their overall utility"

Daniel Wasserman

Wasserman is also interested in using active surface plasmons for sensing applications. "Imagine using them as a compact, low power on-chip spectrometer for biomedical diagnostics and monitoring," he says. "For example, by bringing the incident light into 'contact' with a molecule on the surface of the plasmonic structure, you could measure the ammonia content in the breath of patients undergoing dialysis to monitor their kidney function."

There are some military applications as well, specifically as defense countermeasures, where a tunable plasmonic structure could direct a high-power laser beam onto an incoming missile and steer it away from its target.

But Wasserman's work doesn't stop there. "I'm actually putting together a project to do single photon quantum communications with mid-IR photons, as well as continuing my work with quantum cascade lasers and quantum dot nanostructures," he says. More information about his research can be found at http://faculty.uml.edu/dwasserman.

WISE Career Day Set for May 23

Program Inspires Girls to Seek Careers in Science and Engineering

After a three-year hiatus, UMass Lowell's Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) program will resume on Friday, May 23. The daylong event, which will be held at various locations on UML North, will introduce middle school girls to careers in science and engineering and help them understand the value of taking math and science courses in high school to prepare them for a broad range of professions that require strong, solid backgrounds in these subjects.

According to a recent report, there is a pressing national need to encourage young people, particularly girls, to study science, engineering, math and technology and to enter careers in these fields. "While women now comprise more than half of all college students, they receive less than 20 percent of all degrees awarded in the target majors," says Prof. Ruth Tanner of the Chemistry Department, who has been directing the program since its inception in 1996. "Urgent and sustained attention is required to develop awareness and interest in these majors and careers, especially among girls."

According to Tanner, young girls often reject science and math due to lack of career awareness in schools and the prevailing stereotypical perception that women engaged in these areas of study are not physically attractive. "We know that efforts to spark interest, increase knowledge and confidence, and alter unflattering stereotypes of these career choices for girls have to begin in middle school. The WISE program achieves all these goals," she says.

▲ Ruth Tanner

WISE will offer 26 hands-on workshops this year. These workshops will be conducted by female professionals with successful and rewarding careers in science and engineering who can serve as role models. They include software engineers and a medical doctor, pharmacist, architect, science writer, meteorologist, environmental scientist, veterinarian, cosmetic chemist, forensic scientist and wildlife biologist.

About 425 students from Andover, Billerica, Chelmsford, Groton-Dunstable, Lowell, Lawrence, Methuen, North Middlesex, Reading, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough and Westford are expected to participate.

The girls will also hear a keynote speaker tell her story and offer words of encouragement and inspiration. This year's speaker will be Helen Greiner, a mechanical engineer and computer scientist who is cofounder and board chairman of iRobot Corp., which makes robots for the consumer market and the military. In addition, WISE will provide summer scholarships to further encourage the students' interests in a science area of their choice.

"WISE is entirely funded through generous donations from private individuals and corporate sponsors in the Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire," says Tanner. "It's because of the workshop presenters' generous gift of time and energy that we're able to provide this program at no cost to schools."

For more information about WISE, contact Tanner at (978) 934-3662; Ruth_Tanner@uml.edu, or visit the program's website at www.uml.edu/wise.

Students, Faculty and Staff: Get the Message!

Sign Up for Expanded Emergency Communications

UMass Lowell has a new, comprehensive way to reach students, faculty and staff in case of an emergency. To reach the campus with important, emergency-only information, the new system, called DCC, can immediately issue text and cell phone messages and e-mail notices.

This new technology will complement the variety of communication methods already in place on campus. DCC will replace Cleartext, a pilot text messaging notification system, effective April 15.

Sign-up takes only minutes, and can be done from any computer. The portal is www.uml.edu/notify.

For more information, contact the help desk, Ext. 4357, or e-mail help@uml.edu.

▲ Committee members include, seated from left, Joan Handstad, Patricia Reardon and John McCune; standing, Eileen Trott, Brian Pray, Annie Ciaraldi, Thomas Miliano, Nancy Quattrocchi , James Kohl and Rich Lemoine.

University of Massachusetts Lowell
UMASS

Publications Office
University of Massachusetts Lowell
One University Avenue
Lowell, MA 01854

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lowell, MA 01854
PERMIT No. 69

Deadline for the Next Issue of UML Shuttle Is April 11.